

Nov. 19, 1955

Vol. 46—No. 38

Church of God

# Evangel





## Question Box

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To give thanks sincerely one must give more than thanks.

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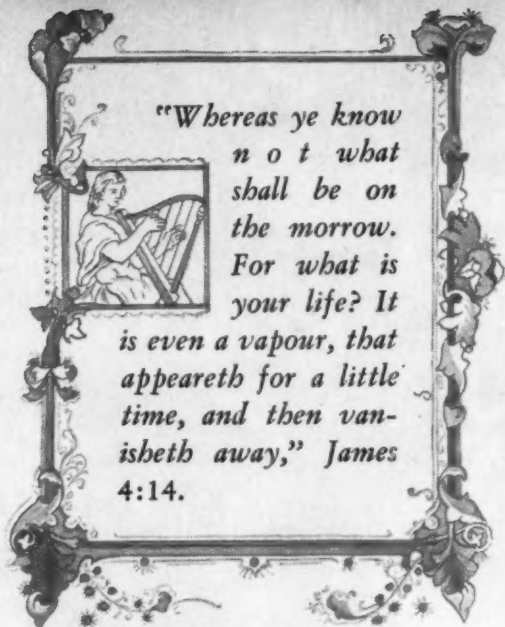
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4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
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10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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# what is your life?

Part  
Two

*Man's most important question*

By LOUIS H. CROSS  
Pastor, Elizabethton, Tennessee

**I**N OUR FIRST DISCUSSION we introduced to you the question found in James 4:14, "For what is your life?" I should like to discuss various aspects of this question—in the next discussion, what is your spiritual life; later, what is your future life. Today I should like to discuss this very important question, "What is your present or physical life?" When James asked the question, "For what is your life?" he immediately gave a partial answer. The Scripture reads, "*It is even as a vapour that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*" In this Scripture James stressed the frailty and brevity of our present life. Another writer in 1 Chronicles 29:15 describes our days on earth as a shadow. Since the time for our living is so brief, it behooves us to make valuable use of it.

"What is your life?" To describe life biologically would be difficult. The frail wall that separates the animate from the inanimate is not easy to define. The origin of our life, however, is clearly described in Genesis 2:7, "*The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*" Your present life will last for the fleeting minutes that the soul and the body are together, but your soul will exist for all eternity.

"What is your life?" How worth-while are your activities? What have you done that is worth-while today, or this week, or this year? What have you done that will provide lasting results? From time immemorial men have desired to provide lasting monuments for themselves, provide enduring benefits, to inscribe upon their posterity their own name. In efforts to preserve the memory of their name men have endowed colleges, libraries, trust funds, foundations. The pharaohs of ancient Egypt built to enclose their bodies pyramids that have stood for many years. Many today spend all that they can afford to inscribe their name after death on granite or bronze. Long after your tombstone has completely eroded away, long after there is not one sign on the face of the earth of the pyramids of Egypt, long after there is no sign of

your name—no matter what effort you make to inscribe it—your soul will be existing in the destiny you build for yourself by the way you live today.

The only lasting monument you can build is in your soul and in the souls of others. If you can say one kind word, if you can do one kind deed, if you can sing a song, if you can pray a prayer, if you can ever wear a smile that will encourage a soul, you can build a lasting monument. If you can give to the church or to missions the dollar that will cause a soul to find Christ, you can build a lasting monument.

"What is your life?" Are you too concerned about the temporary, fleeting things of this world? Are you struggling as a drowning man, reaching up for air and finding nothing, or grasping for the straw that will crumble in your hand and give you no real support? Are you trying too much to acquire the physical things of this world and surrounding yourself with things that will come quickly to naught? Or are you giving the proper attention to those things that have lasting value? Your life is like a vapor; it soon vanishes away. Time is too short to waste upon things that will last for just a few hours and then be gone.

Christian friends, have you long planned to do more cultivation of souls? Have you long planned to spend more time in prayer? Have you long planned to do those things which have lasting effect? Now is the time to start. Life is short. We must not waste the precious minutes that we have.

Sinner friend, do you sometime plan to accept Christ? What a tragedy it will be if you wait until that vapor has vanished away, if you wait until the night comes and the shadow is gone. Then you will find yourself lost and without hope and without opportunity. Today is the day of salvation, and every single day in sin is wasted, wasted upon things that cannot last, that cannot stand. Start

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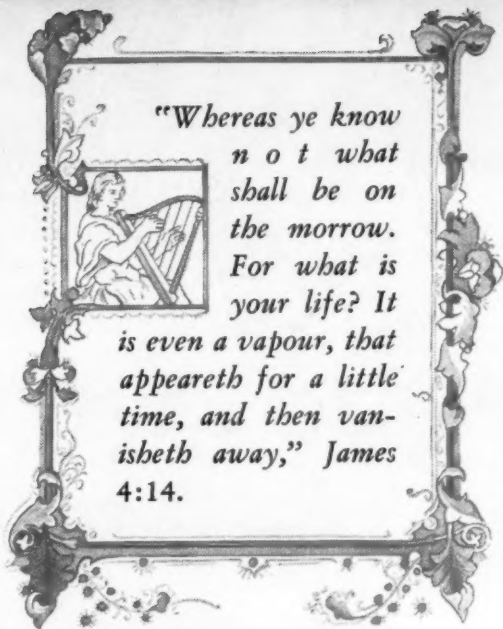
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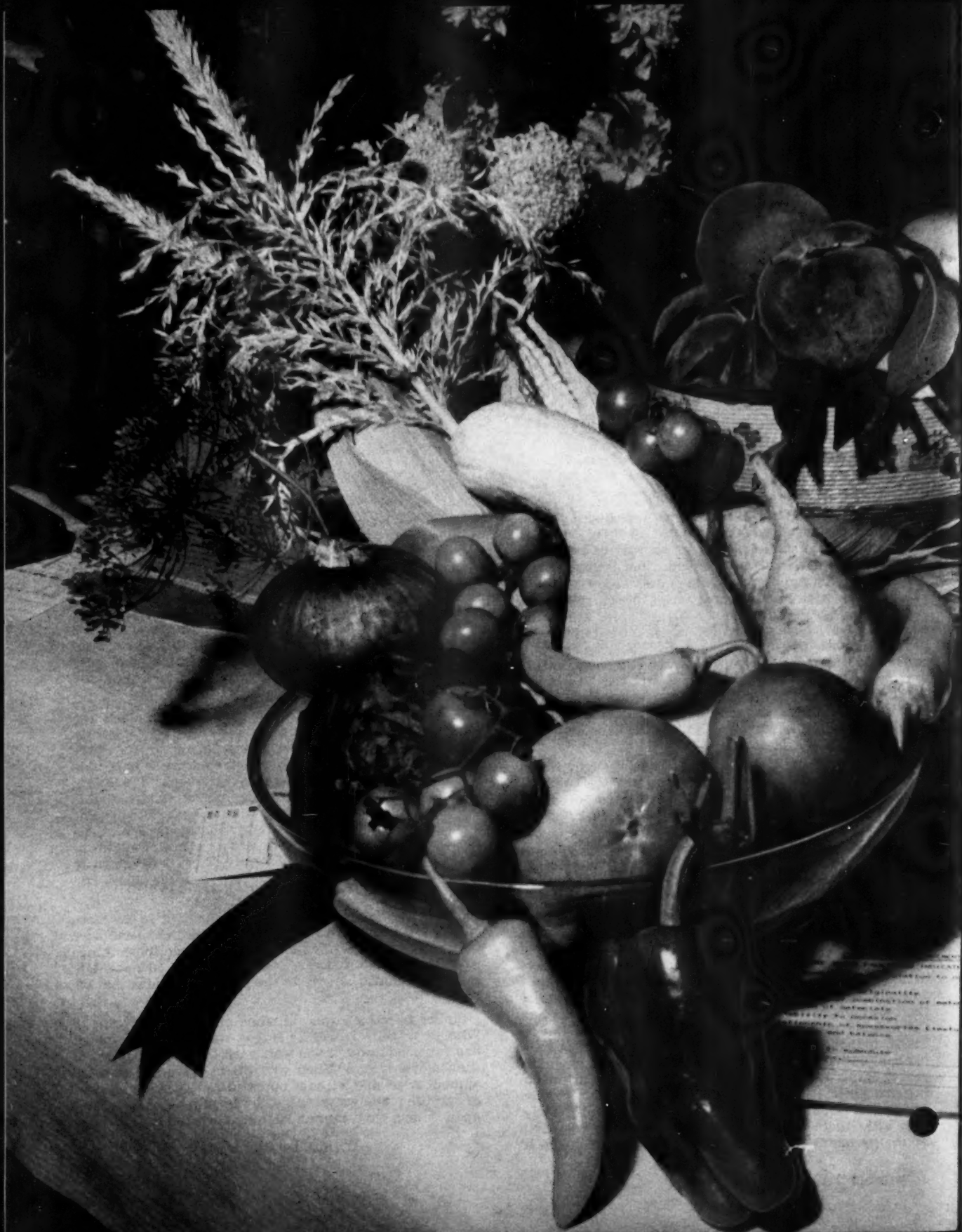
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(Continued on page 11)





# FOR THIS... we are thankful



*Ephesians 5:20, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

**I**N A LAND OF SIN, turmoil, and confusion we, the American people of our day, have much for which to be thankful. I would like to mention a few of the things that most of us have for which to be grateful. Too many of us, I fear, only give thanks on the national day of Thanksgiving, but we have so much in everyday life for which we should thank God.

*We Should Be Thankful for Our Nation.* As individuals in America we are unduly blessed with opportunities and privileges that other people on earth do not have. We have the freedom to worship without interference or dictation and the right to think and speak as we choose. Even the poorest-born person should lift his head and thank God that he is privileged to live in the land of the free—the land of blessings. We should thank God for our daily bread and the standard of living that has been provided for us in this nation of ours. People behind the Iron Curtain and in poverty-stricken and disease-infested lands would be only too thankful if they could have even the crumbs of our tables and enjoy just a small portion of the many things that we enjoy in America today. Deteronomy 8:10, "When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee." Psalms 100:4, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."

*We Should Be Thankful for Our Homes.* The home may be just a hut; but it is home if there is a welcome, a mother's love, a father's care, a place to rest tired bodies and to enjoy privacy and the comforts of life. It is a place where we can read God's Word and feast upon the heavenly manna that he has left us in the Holy Scriptures. It is a place to pray and meditate upon the things that revive our souls, and a place where we can teach our children to respect and believe in God. Each day I thank God

*By W. E. JOHNSON  
Overseer of Tennessee*

for a Christian home, a lovely wife that has known and served God in the Church since she was eleven years of age; and for three children that respect God and have accepted Him as their personal Saviour. Home joys are the most delightful afforded to man, and the joy of parents in their children is the most holy joy of humanity. It has been said that the home is the greatest university that the world affords, and the Bible is the greatest textbook.

*We Should Be Thankful for Our Health.* One only has to visit the hospitals, the sanitoriums, the asylums, and so forth, to appreciate good health. Many of us take it for granted that we are well and do not stop and give God praise. Of course, if God heals us of some serious illness we praise Him and testify to that healing, but we do not take time to thank God for keeping us well. After all, all good things come from above; so let us thank God for health and for strength to live and serve Him in this present world.

*We Should Be Thankful for Our Church.* It is God's house, a habitation of God through the Spirit. When Solomon dedicated the Temple he prayed, "If the people sin against thee and are taken away into captivity; and if they pray with their face toward this house, hear thou from heaven and deliver them." We should be thankful for our church. It is the place where the Word of God is preached, the power of God is manifested, and the love of God is revealed to His children. It is a place where we can testify and praise God for the blessings that he has given us day by day, and worship Him according to the dictates of our consciences. It is the place where our children are dedicated to God and taught the ways of eternal life and salvation; where their marriage vows are spoken, and where we take our dead to pay the last homage and respect to them in this life; and where our hopes are built up on seeing them in a world without end. We, as Christians, should pledge ourselves to attending its services and supporting it with our prayers and finance. After all, most of us found God in the church. In my heart I am deeply grateful to God for His Church. I am grateful that I am a minister in the Church. People may criticize it and say that they believe in religion but not in the Church, but people that make this assertion have not taken into account the many things that the Church

(Continued on page 11)

# Man and missions

From the Foreign Missions Executive Secretary's Desk, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee—PAUL H. WALKER.

## "LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY" APPRECIATED IN SWITZERLAND

**D**R. STEINER, Secretary to the Swiss Pentecostal Missionary Society, Zurich, Switzerland, wrote the Executive Missions Secretary and said:

"I have read Charles W. Conn's great book *Like a Mighty Army* with much interest and profit. I was impressed by its concentrated completeness, its historic conscientiousness, the clear outline of its content, and the mastery of its style. It conveys an admirable vision of this important and worthy section of the World Pentecostal Movement, the Church of God. I appreciate especially that the author not only records the triumphs and merits of his church but also deals with some dark pages of its history. The unbiased way in which he describes the trials by disillusion is very helpful to all who have to deal with similar problems. It only adds to the value of the book and increases confidence. Some pages are especially moving, such as the record of the noble example of the late F. J. Lee and of the loyalty of his faith to the end. I greatly value this book in my library, and I pray that it may serve as a means of counsel and guidance to many in the ministry and a blessing to all who read it. I wish it a wide circulation under the blessing of God."



## FOREIGN MISSIONS EXECUTIVE RETREAT A SUCCESS

THE FOURTH annual Missions Executive Retreat of the EVANGELICAL FOREIGN MISSIONS ASSOCIATION was held October 4-8 at the Westminster Hotel, Winona Lake, Indiana. Attendance totaled 118, representing 44 missionary agencies and 23 educational institutions (colleges, seminaries, Bible institutes and Bible colleges). The Church of God delegates consisted of Rev. Paul H. Walker, Rev. J. H. Walker, Rev. W. H. Horton, and Rev. A. M. Phillips.

This year's Retreat program included the presentation and discussion of the following topics: "The Appointment of Non-Caucasian Missionaries" by Dr. Milton Baker (Conservative Baptist Foreign Missions Society); "The Integration of the Mission and the Church" by Rev. Melvin L. Hodges (Assemblies of God); "The Selection and Screening of Missionary Personnel" by Rev. Otis Leal (Wycliffe Bible Translators); "A Psychologist Examines the Missionary Candidate" by Dr. J. Raymond Attman (Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, Troy, New York).

The closing sessions of the Retreat were devoted to dis-

cussions of "Missionary Curriculum" led by Dr. Merrill Tenney (Wheaton College) and Dr. Charles Seldenspinner (Southeastern Bible College).



## HAITI IS RAVAGED BY MAJOR FAMINE

By New York Times

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Aug. 15—Between 17,000 and 20,000 persons are starving to death, and an additional 40,000 are desperately ill of malnutrition and disease in and near Jeremie, southwestern Haiti. Every day sees the death of infants and old people.

The cause of the widespread misery is Hurricane Hazel, which last October devastated most of this Caribbean republic, particularly the southwest, and a severe drought last spring that withered new crops.

In the last few days the Haitian Government has sent some medical aid into the area. The United States Government is now distributing, through its aid mission, 6,700 tons of food supplies. Jamaica is sending a shipment of food and medical supplies, it is reported.

But officials say that these contributions, while alleviating some of the hunger and misery, are inadequate. The new harvest, which is expected to be meager, is two months off. The death toll will rise, officials say, unless quick and generous help of all kind is obtained.

"There are places in the mountains that no one has been able to reach with food ever since the hurricane hit the island. People are too weak and sick to come down from the hills for help."

Eighty per cent of Haiti's population is rural, poverty-ridden and illiterate. Even before the hurricane the Government had decreed a "belt-tightening" program because the economy was below par.

The United States rushed in emergency food. In addition, it supplied \$350,000 worth of seed for quick-growing foods to replace crops destroyed, hand tools, medicines, and some vehicles. Other countries helped with food, clothing and building materials.



## THE CHURCH OF GOD IN INDIA



The above is a picture of 17 candidates baptized Athirumkal where a new church was organized in June, 1955. O. C. Kunfammen is the pastor.



By  
JAMES L. SLAY

Pastor  
Greenville, S. C.

# PENTECOSTAL THANKSGIVING

**T**HANK GOD FOR Thanksgiving! Thank God for the faithful forefathers who loved their God enough to establish a day of national thanksgiving. One appreciates this day even more when he finds himself on foreign soil and the day not different from other days. Thank God for our great Nation and its official recognition of God's goodness. Although many will think of this day as one of sumptuous feasts and football classics, others will lift reverent heads to heaven and give to God sincere thanks.

On this day we shall, as usual, be thankful for what God has done for us. The blessings of the year, both spiritual and temporal, will be recounted. All of which is good. This is the normal and universal way to celebrate a Christian Thanksgiving. Thank Him for the great things He has done *for us*! Thank Him for salvation! Thank Him for health! Thank Him for all His bounties! He has done much for us. But might it not be well for us to thank Him for what He has done *with us*? Let us give to you the blessed song of Thanksgiving found in Psalm 126.

When the Lord brought back those that returned to Zion, We were like unto them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,

And our tongue with singing;

Then said they among the nations:

"The Lord hath done great things with these."

The Lord hath done great things with us;

We are rejoiced.

(From "A History of the Jews," by Solomon Grayzel)

"This Psalm is called a Song of ascents or degrees. This, according to Spurgeon, is the seventh step, and we may therefore expect to meet with some special perfection of joy in it; nor shall we look in vain. We see here not only that Zion abides, but that her joy returns after sorrow. Abiding is not enough; fruitfulness is added. Here the truster becomes a sower; faith works by love, obtains a present bliss, and secures a harvest of delight."

In these six wonderful verses we have commemorated the work of forty-two thousand Babylonian Jews who left the riches of Babylonia and returned with all they had to poverty-stricken Judea. It took several months to travel the long, dusty miles of desert between Babylonia and Judea. No wealth awaited them in the rubble of Jerusalem. The Lord had *done* great things *for* them; in later years the Psalmist was inspired to write that God had *done* great things *with* them.

We are Pentecostal people. Should we not strive to make

this a Pentecostal Thanksgiving? This inspired song can show us how we can do just this.

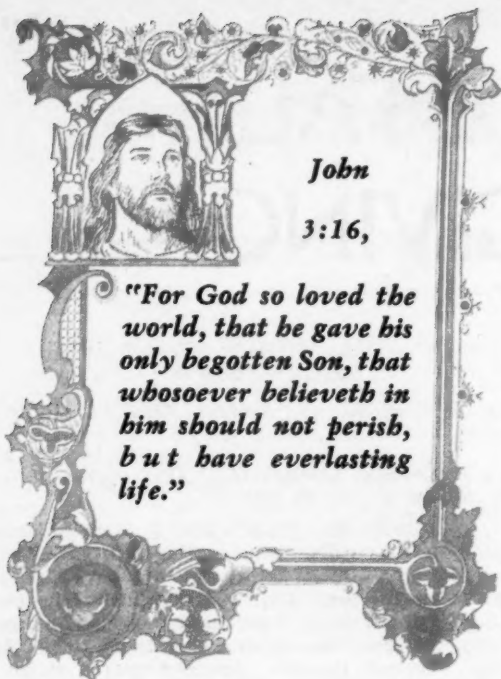
**FAR TOO MANY WANT** Jesus to be their Saviour, and then refuse to make Him their Lord. We want Him to do great things for us, but are we willing to do great things for Him? Did you know that God does for us that we might do for Him? Jesus chose the Twelve and transformed their lives. He wanted to make them "fishers of men." He met the much-married matron at the well and gave her a heavenly drink. This He did that she might invite other Samaritans to come see a Man who told her all things. God did great things for these. We thank Him for that, but do we thank Him for what He did with them?

During the last half century the Lord has done much with us. At the beginning of this mighty Pentecostal Deluge the Christian world was not so well off as it is today. Modernism had crept into our seminaries; the old tenets of the faith were being assailed, and post-Millennial preaching was popular. For several decades it seemed as though fundamentalism would not survive. For the last decade the tide has been changing. What has happened? Sin is still rampant. Rationalism is still evident in high places. Yet, men of many denominations preach a revealed and supernatural religion. Groups who used to assail us as fanatics and heretics now welcome us into their fellowship and admit that we have a zeal and consecration that is needed so much. Not too many have embraced the teaching of Apostolic Power, but our preaching, teaching and pleading have led many to revise their thinking and has thus revitalized in many instances a dying church.

With a remnant of Spirit-filled, holiness people, God has kept alive the testimony of the primitive church. Thank God for this! May we also thank Him for His blessings to our church. What things has He done with us? He has made our name known around the globe. Missionaries filled with His Spirit have gone forth with the Church of God message. Today, we are championing the message of Holiness and Pentecost in places where it has never been known. Recently a noted religious leader, not at all friendly to Pentecost, saw some of our work in the Caribbean area and returned home with a resounding testimony as to the scope and sincerity of our church.

At home we are recognized as a vibrant and virile force in thousands of communities throughout the land. Last

(Continued on page 10)



John

3:16,

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

IT IS QUITE CUSTOMARY and ethically correct to extend thanks, either verbally or written, to one who has bestowed a gift upon us. It would probably be astonishing to know the amount spent by the American people in a year's time for "Thank you" cards and notes.

There is a Scripture found in 2 Corinthians 9:15 which is usually connected with a Christmas message; however, I would like to use it as a text for this Thanksgiving sermon. It reads as follows, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." Goodspeed's translation renders it, "Thank God for his indescribable gift." There is no gift from God so indescribable as the gift found in the Golden Text of the Bible, John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

At Thanksgiving time it is usually in our hearts to take time to thank God for His blessings, physical, temporal and spiritual. However, did it ever occur to you that the greatest blessing of all is Jesus Christ Himself? Were it not for Him the other blessings could not be.

For a little while I should like to call your thoughts away from the Pilgrims and Plymouth Rock to Jesus, the eternal Rock of Ages. Truly He is the real source of all genuine thanksgiving.

First, I should like to thank God because He gave us Jesus who is *the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.*

Nearly a quarter of a million lambs died each year under the Mosaic covenant; yet, man was ever possessed with a conscience of guilt because it was impossible for the blood of animals to take away sin.

When John introduced Christ that day on the banks of the Jordan River it was significant that he did not say, "Friends, meet my cousin, Jesus." Rather, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the

*The human heart  
in gratitude cries*

# "Thank You for the Gift"

By EARL T. GOLDEN

Pastor, Coffeyville, Kansas

world." Thus, He who was the fulfillment and end of every Old Testament blood sacrifice had been announced to the world. Every sinner, however vile, from here to eternity could justly lay hold upon the claims of the power of Jesus' blood. "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost," and as one has aptly said, "from the guttermost to the uppermost." This is the Saviour at whose nail-pierced feet we pause this Thanksgiving Day to say, "Thank you."

SECOND, I SHOULD like to thank God because He gave us Jesus who is *the Great Physician.*

"But he was wounded for our transgression, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and *with his stripes we are healed,*" Isaiah 53:5. Peter tells us in 1 Peter 2:24, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: *by whose stripes ye were healed.*" He who was and is our Saviour, was and is our Healer. "With his stripes we are healed." "By whose stripes ye were healed."

Healing for the body is a finished work as far as Christ is concerned. It was purchased in Pilate's judgment hall when they laid aside His seamless robe and beat His back with many stripes. To us it is a present work and can either be definite or progressive even as our faith is exercised. How many now reading this message can lift up holy hands and praise the Great Physician for His healing power? Many of you have cheated disease of its racking pain and tortuous, lingering death because of a healing touch from the nail-pierced hand of the Great Physician. Will you hesitate long enough to say "Thank you" this Thanksgiving Day?

Third, I should like to thank God because He gave us Jesus who is *a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother.*

Jesus is not only your Saviour and Healer, but He is also your best Friend.

He is more than a mere acquaintance, a distant relative, or even your own father and mother, for we hear the Psalmist say, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

How many of you have ever felt forsaken, friendless and

(Continued on page 11)



# How Thanksgiving Began

By H. L. CHESSE  
 Pastor, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**A** DAY PROCLAIMED AS Thanksgiving Day and celebrated as a national holiday has been a custom in America a little less than 100 years. After many hardships and dangers in a voyage across the ocean, then with more hardships, sufferings and death in their new land of freedom, the Pilgrim fathers expressed their gratitude to God for His mercy and blessings in sparing their lives and for giving them a harvest; and this was more than 300 years ago. Yet the pattern had been set long, long before this time, as we find where Moses directed the Hebrews, "Thou shalt keep the feast of the tabernacle seven days, after thou hast gathered in from thy threshing-floor and from thy wine-press; and thou shalt rejoice in the feast . . . seven days shalt thou keep a feast unto the Lord thy God." This was a celebration of the harvest; in all probability, they were expressing their gratitude to God for His blessings upon them.

Thanksgiving has become so much a part of the American tradition that we are prone to think that it is of American origin, but Thanksgiving can be traced back through the ages even to the Canaanites, from whom the children of Israel adopted so many of their customs. In

the book of Judges we find this record, "And they went out into the fields and gathered their vineyards, and trod the grapes and held festival, and went into the house of their god, and did eat and drink."

We take pride in the proclamation of Governor Bradford of the Pilgrim settlement at Plymouth, ordering a three-day feast and celebration in October, 1621, to give prayerful thanks for the harvest they had enjoyed following their first tragic winter on the shores of their new home of freedom. Everything was not rosy by any means; yet, they found in their hearts that gratitude to God for His provision in sparing them and giving them something to harvest.

During that first winter of suffering, privation, sickness, and death, they lost more than half of their original number, and secretly buried them at night so the Indians would not be aware of their dwindling numbers. At one time all but six or seven of all the Pilgrims were ill.

The following spring and summer had been kind to them. They were enabled to build warm cabins to protect them from the bitter winter weather, and their first crops



produced what was to them a bountiful harvest. Is it not true that this land of the free and home of the brave still produces a bountiful harvest? If any nation ever had cause to be thankful, it is America. Everywhere we look, and everywhere we go, we find evidence of the blessings of a heavenly Father. Each day should be a thanksgiving day, for His bountiful mercies, grace, blessings, supplying our every need.

Chief Massasoit and other Indian friends contributed to the blessings bestowed upon this small company of Pilgrims by giving them venison, wild turkeys and fish for their first Thanksgiving feast on American soil. They were a strange company in a strange land, suffering hardships for the sake of freedom to worship God as they pleased. This is a heritage which we should ever be mindful did not just happen, but was bought with many sacrifices and will be maintained with hardships and sacrifices.

THE PILGRIM FATHERS had many precedents for their celebration at harvest time, the Canaanites and Hebrews, as well as the celebration they had witnessed in Holland, where they had previously lived for about ten years, in their search for freedom to worship as they chose.

Another harvest festival with which they were acquainted was the escorting of the decorated "hock cart," which brought in the last load of grain from the fields in England. This was celebrated by all the villagers, a harvest celebration dating back to the Saxons in the ninth century.

Two years following the Pilgrim's first Thanksgiving the grateful governor called for another period of feasting and praying to celebrate the welcome rain that saved their crops after a long drought. There was set aside throughout New England a day of thanksgiving now and then after 1630. In Connecticut it became an annual festival in 1647. In the Massachusetts Bay Colony it became an annual festival in 1680. George Washington set aside Thursday, November 23, 1755, as a day of public thanksgiving. On October 29, 1781, following Washington's defeat of Cornwallis, the Continental Congress proclaimed a day of prayer and thanksgiving. George Washington appointed a day of thanksgiving on October 3, 1789, and another in 1795.

President Madison, in response to resolutions of Congress, set apart a day for thanksgiving at the close of the war in 1812. Around 1830 Thanksgiving became an annual holiday in the state of New York, and in 1855 Virginia adopted the custom. By 1858 governors of twenty-five states and two territories had issued proclamations appointing a day of thanksgiving. In 1863 President Lincoln appointed the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day. Since that time, less than 100 years ago we have had a national day proclaimed as Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November.

Some celebrations on this official Thanksgiving Day vary considerably from the spirit of thanksgiving by the Pilgrims over 300 years ago. That which becomes a custom may be observed without really getting into the spirit of the occasion. It is easy to forget the sufferings and hardships borne by our predecessors centuries, or even decades ago, unless we have something kept before us to keep us reminded.

Three things which were marks of distinction in the celebration of Thanksgiving down through the ages were

prayer, thanksgiving, and feasting. One of these, feasting, have been kept prominent until today. In the Bible they were commanded to keep the feast seven days, and rejoice in the feast; "seven days shalt thou keep a feast unto the Lord thy God." This was to be after they had gathered in from the threshing floor and from the winepress. We may think we have not reaped sufficiently to feast, but we can always be assured that we have much for which to be thankful, much for which to pray. In gratitude and humility of spirit we can celebrate Thanksgiving Day. With uplifted heads we can exclaim: "This is my home! This is America! This is the land of blessings that keep running over."

We can think as we choose, worship as we please, choose our own way of life as best suits us according to our abilities. The spirit of thanksgiving is what makes the celebration real and effective—not the bountiful feast, not just the day, but, if we can comprehend the real spirit of the occasion we receive greater blessings. If we reminisce for a while on our American heritage—a land of plenty, a free country, free religion, free thought and expression—and how and why we obtained it, we shall ever be thankful to our heavenly Father for this great privilege, and to our forefathers for the heritage left us, and make every day a thanksgiving day, and sing "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

Let us resolve that we shall pass on to those who come after us a tradition of faith in our way of life, of courage, of human decency and spiritual living that will prove us worthy of the great American tradition.

*Praise to God who gave you life,  
Who gave you feeling and a soul:  
Praise to your parents who care for you,  
Who with all their love have surrounded you;  
Praise to Earth who in her body,  
Keeps valuable things for men to use;  
Praise to Nature who gives you all your food,  
Your clothing and great power to use her  
Secrets with great care;  
Praise to Love who with all her strength,  
Keeps you attached with all your friends.*



#### PENTECOSTAL THANKSGIVING

(Continued from page 7)

year several of our Sunday Schools gained national recognition for their success in the National Sunday School contest sponsored by *Christian Life* magazine. Civic and industrial leaders are lavish in the praise of our pastors as they work to lift high the principles of the Prince of Peace. Only recently a group of industrialists inquired of a noted contractor whether there was a Church of God near a proposed site for their new plant. These men wanted their new mill near a group of our people because they knew they were honest and efficient workers.

Yes, the Lord has done great things for us. Had He not done great things for us, He could never have done great things with us. I thank God for holiness; it makes me a vessel fit for the Master's use. I thank God for the baptism of the Holy Ghost; it enables me to be used of

Him. He gave to me this wonderful infilling not for my good alone, but primarily that I might witness, work and watch for Him!

Not very many realized the importance of the returning Jews to Jerusalem. The King allowed them to return, not knowing that God's hand was guiding. We, like those of the Old Testament Church, have left the Babylon of worldly wealth and sin. We have taken all and given it to Him that He might use it and us for the rebuilding of the walls of Zion. We also appeared "like unto them that dream," but "our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with singing." Remember how they used to mock and jeer at our strange behavior? Perhaps we did appear beside ourselves, but how they did love to hear us sing. Now they say among the nations; the Lord hath done great things with them; and all the while "we are rejoiced," for the Lord hath done great things with us!



### WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?

(Continued from page 3)

today to do those things which will endure, which will build a lasting monument.

Oh, how glorious it is to live our life in Christ. You may well ask, "How can I do it in my limited wisdom, and in my limited ability, and in this body of mine that is inclined to sin?" The Apostle Paul has recorded the answer in Galatians 2:20, ". . . I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Paul was, even as you and I, a frail, sinful creature, but because one day on the road to Damascus he found Christ, he became a changed creature. He underwent a new birth and all things became new; because he had Christ in him, and he was in Christ, he was able to lead that glorious life that built a monument which will last for all eternity.

"What is your life?" Do you desire a rich, purposeful life? Would you like to do something that is worth-while? Would you like to leave a lasting monument? Christ is the answer!



### FOR THIS WE ARE THANKFUL

(Continued from page 5)

has to offer and the privileges that we have as members of God's Church.

*We Should Be Thankful for Our Hope of Eternal Life.* Paul said, "If in this life only we have hope, we would be of all men most miserable." It would be a sad thing if when we buried our loved ones we were telling them goodbye for all time and eternity; but, thank God, one day He made provision through His son for life after this earthly life. While we were sinners Christ died for us and has given us the hope of eternal life. I am thankful for that hope. Job 19:25, 26, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." I would like to close this lit-

tle article with a prayer which I trust will be your prayer, too, at this Thanksgiving time.

*Thou that hast given so much to me,  
Give one thing more—a grateful heart;  
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,  
As if Thy blessings had spare days;  
But such a heart, whose pulse may be Thy praise.*

—George Herbert



### "THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT"

(Continued from page 8)

alone? How many times have you had the blues and felt that no one really loved you? How many times have you become desperate and contemplated drastic measures because you came face to face with the grim reality that even your best friend is not sufficient in the darkest hours of life?

God knew the frailty of man and in loving, tender, fatherly oversight gave to an undeserving world "a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Will you bow your head now and tell Him "Thank you."

Last, I should like to thank God because He gave us Jesus who is the source of our victory, now and forever.

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ," 1 Corinthians 15:57. "Thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ," 2 Corinthians 2:14.

I think there has never been a song written which has a more scripturally correct title than the old song "Victory in Jesus."

Whatever hope we have of living the Christian life in this present world centers around Jesus. Whatever hope we have in eternity must of necessity come through Christ.

He is our victory now and forever more. He whose grace is sufficient for the darkest day, the longest night and the weariest hour; whose power is sufficient for the weakest soul; whose riches are sufficient for the neediest saint; whose love is never-dying and unfailing; He is our victory.

Paul surely expressed the sentiment of every born-again believer when he penned 2 Corinthians 3:5, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God."

Will you this Thanksgiving Day lift your hands and form a "V" for victory to the One who nearly two thousand years ago extended His hands heavenward and died between two thieves on an old rugged cross that you today and everyday and for all eternity might have victory?



"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour, and back of the flour the mill; And back of the mill is the wheat, and the shower, and the sun, and the Father's will."



Get out of Grumble Lane and live on Thanksgiving Street.—Moody

## reports

### Anniversary of Y.P.E. in Knoxville

KNOXVILLE, Iowa—Tuesday, October 18, the Church of God at Knoxville had a birthday party honoring the twenty-sixth birthday of its Y.P.E. The history of the Y.P.E. was given—they got their material from *The Pilot* which is a guide for our programs. We found that the Y.P.E. meant a lot to our local young people. Each person present brought a birthday offering. At the close of the service a cake which was baked by our President, Mrs. Hilder McDonald, was brought forth and candles were lit while the congregation sang "Happy Birthday." Each person marched around and received a piece of the cake. An enjoyable evening was spent by all. We do thank God for those who founded our Y.P.E., and we pray God's blessing upon every one who has a part in publishing *The Pilot* which is a great book for young people.—Harriett Gee.

**Church of God Raises \$1,023.00**  
WINSTON SALEM, N. C.—The Church of God, 1419 Waughtown Street is still rejoicing over the great spiritual, and financial success of its annual homecoming. The pastor, E. L. Moore, gave an inspiring message on "The Good Samaritan and the Need for the Lost World." In response to this message, \$1,023.00 was raised. This will be used to carry on the extensive redecorating and remodeling program, already well underway. Those who previously had seen the auditorium can hardly believe it to be the same one. The vestibule has been repaired with new walls; also, the ceiling has been repaired. The entire inside has been beautifully painted, with matching trim on the windows. A cement walk from the church to the street has been completed. Eighty new chairs have been purchased for the church,

and a new electric washer for the parsonage. The church now pays all lights, fuel, water, and telephone bills for the parsonage—a duty it had not assumed previously. All this has created a new interest. Attendance has increased; eleven new members have been added to the church. The church is now in a very promising revival, with Brother L. T. Culp, of Florida, as evangelist.—Reporter, Louise Wall.

### New Church Building Started

PHOENIX, Ariz.—We praise our God and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, for what He has done for us through the precious Holy Ghost. The Lord led us here, from Sacramento, California, one year ago, to start a new church. The church was organized in our living room with eleven members on September 1, 1954. In November a small building, 17 x 28 feet, was placed on our lot by our good overseer. We started to work at once on a church building which was to be 32 x 61 feet. The Lord helped us and our faithful people worked hard. We dedicated the church May 15, 1955.

Our L.W.W.B. bought curtains and rugs for the choir, our Y.P.E. is buying the piano, and on the day of our dedication we received about \$600 for new chairs. We are now building an apartment on the back of the church. We are fixing it so it can be used in the future for more Sunday School rooms, and so a baptistry can be easily installed. At the present we have four Sunday School rooms, a nursery, and two rest rooms. Our building is valued at \$20,000. We owe about \$4,500, with payments of \$55 a month. We now have 24 members and are still growing. We praise God for all He has done for us. Pray for us that we will keep growing for the Lord and will always give Him the glory for everything.—H. B. Glenn, Pastor.

### New Church Enjoys Blessings of the Lord

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. - The South Side Benton Harbor Church of God, which is a new church started in January, wishes to express its praise to God for the many definite experiences it is enjoying. Just in our regular services 83 have been saved, 25 sanctified, 27 filled with the Holy Ghost, 42 baptized in water, and 30 added to the Church. All this is under the leadership of our good pastor, Brother L. I. Ricketts, his wife, and Co-workers in the church. We praise the Lord for everyone of them. We have purchased a \$1,500 lot on Maynard Drive which is already paid for. We are looking forward to the time we can go into our new building and have room to go to work for God.—Reporter.

### Church of God, Centerville, Iowa, Pays off Indebtedness of Church Property and Burns Mortgage.



The Church of God, of Centerville, Iowa, under the able leadership of their fine pastor and wife, Reverend and Mrs. Melvin Robey, has attained a goal they have been striving for years to reach. Brother Robey, with his fine group of people, has worked untiringly and sacrificially, and the Lord has crowned their efforts with success. Such progress can be realized only when people cooperate in an endeavor. In addition to this, they have purchased a nice corner lot adjoining the present property as well as a lovely two-bed-room parsonage, located on South Twelfth Street, in Centerville. All of this is indicative of the progress of the Church of God in this

city. We take this opportunity to commend them for these accomplishments.

The accompanying picture is that of a service in the local church at which time the mortgage was burned. Reading from left to right in the picture, are—front row: trustees—Earnest Garr, Arnold Sleeth, and Robert Shiltz; J. L. McCoy, State Overseer; Melvin Robey, Pastor, burning the mortgage, and Mrs. Melvin Robey.

In the back row are: Everette Steele, F. W. Goff, State Overseer of Illinois, Corbet Franks, Raymond Hollar, P. E. Dixon (not pictured).—J. L. McCoy, State Overseer.



# revivals

**Ten Conversions in Chattanooga**  
**MISSIONARY RIDGE (CHATTANOOGA), Tenn.**—Recently, we had a wonderful revival conducted by the McManus' of New Orleans, Louisiana. Brother Owen McManus and his fine wife were certainly a blessing to have around, and they were fine people with whom to work. They could be with us only a few nights, but in the few services 10 were saved, 6 sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 10 new members were added to the church—all of this in a week's time. Some of Brother McManus' singers came up from New Orleans for the week end and certainly added to the services. I am sure that if our brother were out in evangelistic work he would be one of our outstanding evangelists. God is blessing our work at the Missionary Ridge Church of God. It is hard to describe what God is doing for us without sounding as if we were boasting. Continue to pray for us and we will be grateful.—Harry A. Mushagan, Pastor.

**Lady Evangelist Conducts Revival**  
**COBBTOWN (HILLSIDE), Ga.**—We have just had an eight night's revival in which 5 were saved, 2 were sanctified, and 1 was filled with the Holy Ghost. The evangelist was Sister Mattie Larkin, of Winter Haven, Florida. She may be contacted at 656 Orrin Avenue, S. W., Winter Haven, Florida.—E. W. Ashmore, Pastor.

**Many Diseases Healed**  
**MT. PLEASANT, Tenn.**—Recently, we had a revival conducted by Brother Delmar Thompson from McMinnville, Tennessee, and the Lord blessed us wonderfully. Eleven were saved, 6 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost, 2 baptized in water, and 1 was added to the Church. There will be more added to the church very soon. Many wonderful healings by the power of God took place during this revival. Strep-throat, anemia, growths on the head, partial paralysis, deafness, and internal sicknesses were healed instantly. Our whole church was blessed by the preaching of our evangelist. We all feel closer to God and are going to do more for Him.—Donald Sedman, Pastor.

**Revival in Washington**  
**KELSO, Wash.**—We had a revival September 20 through October 9. Brother G. S. Tapley was the evangelist for the first two weeks. During the third week Brother Roy Nigh preached one night, Brother James Wheeler one night, and Brother W. H. Speed preached the rest of the week. On the average, crowds were the largest we have ever had in a revival. The power of God was so real in the singing, shouting, and preaching of the Word. Ten were saved, 2 sanctified, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost, 11

added to the Church, and 7 baptized in water. The meetings have closed but the revival goes on.—Ira J. Cruce, Pastor.

**Outpouring of God's Blessings**  
**PAINESVILLE (SUNSET POINT), Ohio**—We are thankful for the Spirit of God we have experienced in our revival. Evangelist Levie H. Bryan, of North Carolina, preached a one-week revival for us. Six were saved, 9 sanctified, and 9 filled with the Holy Ghost. The Lord is pouring out His blessings as He said He would. Our pastor is William C. Hooker.—Ida Lake.

**Telegram**  
**Over One Hundred Conversions**  
**HAZELHURST, Ga.**—We have just had the greatest revival in our church history. One hundred fifteen were saved, 100 sanctified, 92 filled with the Holy Ghost, 79 baptized in water, and 82 were added to the Church. The evangelist was Frankie O. Ward of Savannah, Georgia.—J. R. Sanders, Pastor.

**New Building to be Erected**  
**SHREVEPORT, La.**—Recently we had a revival conducted by Brother Lloyd White, who is pastor of the Church of God in Little Rock, Arkansas. Brother White did some wonderful Bible preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, and the church was greatly blessed and encouraged. Some were saved, reclaimed and baptized, and 5 were added to the Church. We thank God for the way he is blessing here and for our pastor, Brother T. K. Shoemaker, and his family. We are in a building program at the present time. The old building has already been moved to the back of the lot to make room for a nice new church which we plan to start very soon. The Lord is blessing us in a spiritual as well as in a material way. We desire your prayers for our work.—G. O. Allen, Clerk.

**Strong Foundation Being Laid**  
**AUSTIN, Texas**—Recently, we had a marvelous youth revival in which 12 were saved, 12 Sanctified, and 12 filled with the Holy Ghost. We were skillfully led by the Holy Ghost along spirit trails to a greater understanding of the magnificence of our Heavenly Father from whom we are to inherit indescribable luxuries and treasures. We were glad to have Evangelist A. H. Weatherby to conduct this revival because, through him, God was able to manifest signs that made us able to understand the gifts of the Spirit better. The Austin Church of God is proud of its new pastor, Brother A. W. Hicks, for he is truly a spirit-filled man. The church is already showing signs of growth under his direction. We have faith that a strong church is

in the process of being built here because Brother Hicks is building on a sturdy foundation prepared by God and our former pastor, Brother C. A. Starks, whom we love dearly. We are also quite fond of Brother Hicks' family which ably supports him in his ministry here.—J. B. Mundine, Jr., Sunday School Superintendent.

**The Grobler Evangelistic Party at Church of God, Louisville, Ky.**  
**Pastor—J. David Pitts**

We have just closed a wonderful revival with the Grobler Evangelistic Party who are natives of South Africa. This party consists of the mother, Mrs. J. L. Grobler; her two daughters, Esther Grobler and Mrs. Issie Liebenberg; and her son-in-law, Reverend Ike Liebenberg.

Mrs. J. L. Grobler has been preaching some of the greatest and deepest spiritual messages that I have heard preached. We sat spellbound for a long period of time, forgetting everything but the great vision she was planting in our minds and hearts through her words of wisdom, anointed by the Spirit.

We were thrilled by the Spirit-filled singing of the group in our language and in theirs, and we enjoyed very much the inspired solos by Esther.

Mrs. Liebenberg has one of the most outstanding testimonies to tell that I have ever listened to. Tears flowed down our faces as she related it to us.

The first night of the revival we enjoyed a wonderful message by Brother Liebenberg and were privileged to have Esther preach for us Sunday morning. Each one of the party has a deep insight into spiritual matters, and we have been greatly blessed by having all of them with us for a revival. They have proved to be all that the following letter of recommendation from South Africa stated them to be.

**To The Church of God in America**

Dear Brethren,

Sincere Christian Greetings.

I feel bold to introduce to you Sister J. L. Grobler, who is an evangelist, ordained to the ministry of the gospel in the Full Gospel Church of God in Southern Africa.

Sister Grobler is visiting the Church in America to minister wherever an opportunity is offered and we can say with assurance that those who make use of her services, will not regret it.

In this country she has proved to be an evangelist of very high quality, whose ministry has resulted in many souls being saved, and many sick being healed. We do not hesitate to recommend her to the Church.

Yours in His Service,

H. R. Carter,

Moderator of South Africa

Brother Liebenberg also has a letter of high recommendation from the Church of God in South Africa.



#### THE LIGHTED PATHWAY

The *Lighted Pathway* is a 26-page youth publication dedicated to the Church of God Young People's Endeavor. It has the largest circulation of any Pentecostal youth publication in the world. Subscribe to this attractive, instructive, inspiring, monthly periodical. Only \$1.50 per year.

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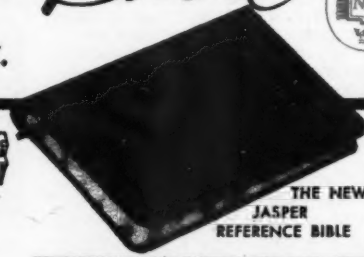
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3 For <sup>1</sup>this is he that was spoken of <sup>2</sup>by the prophet E-sai-as, saying, "The

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16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. 17 And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish and upon the mastery: upon the

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16 And for the precious things of the earth and fulness thereof, and for the good will of him that dwelt in the Lord. th

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**PRAISE** waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall <sup>1</sup>the

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### Saved and Healed

**WEATHERFORD, Texas**—In about the middle of November 1953, I became very sick with a nervous condition and high blood pressure. Our family doctor told my husband there was nothing he could do for me; that the only thing that could help me was God. I went to one of the best nerve doctors in Fort Worth, Texas, and he could not help me. At the time I was a member of the Church of Christ, of Mineral Wells, Texas, and was very dissatisfied in my soul. After visiting the nerve doctor, I began attending the Holiness Church where I really found God and was saved, healed, and baptized with the Holy Ghost. Now my two oldest children and I are members of the Church of God, in Weatherford, Texas. We are very happy and satisfied in our souls. Will all of you Holy Ghost-filled children of God pray for my husband to return to the Lord, and also for my sons, Lonnie and Johnny.—Mrs. W. H. Chesney.

### Fractured Wrist Healed

**SIDNEY, Ohio**—A year ago last January, 1954, I fell down a flight of icy steps and was bruised from my left shoulder to the end of my toes. I also fractured my wrist. Brother O. D. Gammon, our pastor, prayed for me, and I was healed except for my wrist over which I could not get victory. One night in October, 1954, during a revival with Brother Clenton Winiford of Cadillac, Michigan, Brother Winiford said that someone in the audience had a cramp in the left hand. I knew that someone was I. My wrist was in a certain position and I could not move my fingers without rubbing my hand to get them moving again. As the evangelist and my pastor prayed for me it felt as if a glove, which gave added strength, was slipped on my hand from my finger tips to about three and a half inches above my wrist bone. From that time on, I found my wrist getting stronger. Now I can hold things in my hand without dropping them. I am thanking and praising the Lord for hearing and answering prayer. Isaiah 53:5, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." 1 Peter 2:24, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." Praise Him for His wonderful healing power.—Mrs. Noah (Mary M.) Helmandollar.

### Healed of a Broken Back

**SIDNEY, Ohio**—I thank and praise God for His healing power! My back was broken in a car wreck three and a half years ago. The doctors told me that if I did not wear the brace I would be a hunch back; but, praise the Lord, after Brother Gammon



prayed for me, God graciously healed me. My son received an eye injury and the doctors said he would never see again. At my son's request I sent for Brother Gammon to come and pray for him. The Lord restored his sight, for He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Praise His wonderful name!—Mrs. Ben Davis.

### An "Incurable" Is Healed

**ETOWAH, N. C.**—Adam Lee Flynn, age 6, was healed of leakage of the heart on August 14, at the Church of God at Hendersonville, North Carolina. He had been pronounced incurable by seven doctors, but after Brother J. S. Leonard prayed for him he returned to his doctor and was pronounced whole.—Wilma Howard, Attested by J. S. Leonard, Pastor.

### Cured of Unknown Disease

**CLARKSDALE, Miss.**—I praise God for what He has done for me. I don't know what was wrong with me, but the Lord knew all about it and healed me. He has healed me so many times before, and I knew He would heal me this time if I would only trust, and obey Him. I am glad to report that Jesus never fails.—Mrs. Elias Hardin.

### Instantly Healed After Doctors Failed

**GREENWOOD, S. C.**—I have had a bad place in my mouth for over a year. I have been to mouth specialists and other doctors but none of them were able to help me. Everything else had failed so I looked to God who can do what man cannot do. My pastor, Brother A. F. Newport, came and prayed for me. God healed my mouth instantly. I give God the thanks for healing my mouth. I hope this will be a help to someone that needs help from the Lord. I want the world to know that God can heal today.—Mrs. Mae Briggs.

### Laryngitis Cured

**CAWOOD, Ky.**—I desire to testify of my Saviour's goodness to me through the many years. He saved, sanctified, and filled me with the Holy Ghost in 1915. He has done many wonderful things for me ever since, including healing me and my family many times. About the fifth of July of this year, the Lord healed me again. The doctor had told me for seven years that I had laryngitis of the throat. Last winter it was very bad and I had a severe cough. My coughing was so bad that I refrained from going in company, and sometimes I could not sleep at night for coughing. The O. J. Nichols family came to our church for a revival on July 4. I was prayed for on July 5, and my cough was better. On July 7, I had an X-ray made; the report came back that I had had tuberculosis in one lung, but it was

healed. My cough was gone and still is. I was also healed of a heart ailment. I thank God for everything He is to me. I am a member of the Church of God in Cawood.—Mrs. Wm. L. Osborne.

### Healed by "Unseen Guest"

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.**—I have had ulcerated stomach for months, and when the ulcers healed they left a scar where my food passes. The doctor said I must have an operation or my food passage would close. I would almost cramp to death at times. I have been on a diet since April which made my blood and pulse so low that my nerves affected my heart, causing spasms of the heart. At the hospital I became so ill they put me in a private room and would not allow me to have any visitors except my family and my pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister Clyde Ogle. God in his mercy came as an unseen Guest to my room one night. I said I wasn't going to ask the doctor to go home, but I believed he was going to tell me I could go home. He did just that. He said that somehow I had won the battle. I did not say how or why for I did not want him to try to explain away what had happened. I give all praise to the Lamb of God. I know I am not worthy of this, but I am his child saved by His blood that was shed for all.—Sister Wilma Barrett Ziegler.

### Growth on Face Disappeared

**CALHOUN, Ga.**—I thank God for healing a growth which had been on my face for about six months. The doctor said I would have to have it cut out. I went to the North Rome Church of God one night and the pastor, Brother Atkins, prayed for my face to be healed. My face was well in less than two weeks. I just praise God for healing me. My pastor at the Baptist Church prayed for a sore on my hand which had been there for over a year and I was healed. I cannot praise God enough for his goodness to me.—Mrs. John Ely.

### Healed of Nervous Condition

**POPLAR CREEK, Miss.**—I thank God for healing me of a bad nervous condition. My nerves were so bad that I could not even sleep at night. At times I felt as if I were touching electric wires or something. Recently, I left my home at Poplar Creek to hitchhike my way to Cleveland, Tennessee, to be prayed for. I hoped to see Brother L. G. Rouse while there. When I arrived in Cleveland, I found Brother Rouse there in prayer meeting. As I testified and told the people my trouble, God gloriously healed me at once. Brother Rouse told me I was healed, and I said, "Yes, Brother, I know I'm healed." I've been sleeping like a log ever since. I also thank God for healing me of a smothering trouble.—George Dyson.



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